What is claimed is:

- 1. A dry mixture for forming a fireproofing composition adapted to be spray applied to a steel substrate, said dry mixture comprising a hydraulic binder, a foam stabilizing agent, and a set retarder, said dry mixture providing, upon the addition of water, a pumpable slurry, and upon the application of mechanical turbulence to said pumpable slurry, a settable foam capable of spray application to a steel substrate and which, after spray application is adherent to said substrate.
- 2. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said foam stabilizing agent is powdered polyvinyl alcohol.
 - 3. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said hydraulic binder is stucco.
- 4. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises calcium carbonate.
- 5. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises alpha-olefin sulfate.
- 6. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises glass fibers and cellulosic fibers.
- 7. The dry mixture of claim 4, wherein said dry mixture further comprises alpha-olefin sulfate.
- 8. The dry mixture of claim 4, wherein said dry mixture further comprises glass fibers and cellulosic fibers.